




HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Hamilton Police Services Board
BOARD MEETING DATE:	April 23, 2021
SUBJECT:	2020 Crimes Against Seniors Unit
REPORT NUMBER:	21-036
SUBMITTED BY:	Ryan Diodati, Acting Chief of Police
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Board receive as information the 2020 year end Crimes Against Seniors Unit statistical report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2004 the Hamilton Police Service recognized the need for a dedicated unit addressing the issue of crimes against seniors. As a result the Crimes Against Seniors Unit (CASU) was formed, it was the first unit of its kind and has set the standard for other services to follow. The unit currently consists of one Detective and one Detective Constable. The unit works with and is supported by three divisional Senior Support Officers (SSO).

CASU is responsible for the investigation of crimes against persons 60 years of age or older or vulnerable adults, who are being victimized primarily because of their age or vulnerability. The CASU works closely with community agencies to ensure all reported cases of assault, financial exploitation and neglect against the elderly are investigated. Many of the investigation are complex and time consuming involving knowledge of powers of Attorney. Detectives must have knowledge of family dynamics and be able to utilize prevention, safety planning and effective intervention. Investigators are aware of the different forms of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation and are able to identify subtle and overt signs of abuse, know what actions are required and are familiar with the network of social and age related services that support senior abuse victims.

Vision: To be a trusted partner in delivering public safety.

Mission: To serve and protect in partnership with our communities.

Our Values: Compassionate, Dedicated, Inclusive, Integrity, Innovative, Professional, Teamwork

CASU is a member of the Law Enforcement Agencies Protecting Seniors (LEAPS) Committee and the Joint Agency Intelligence Liaison (JAIL) who engages in regular community awareness campaigns including presentations on media.

COVID-19 has had a significant impact upon all aspects of our life and this includes the operations of the CASU. Part of the mandate involves education and awareness programs. This has been significantly impacted due to COVID and our inability to present to the public.

In 2020 the CASU members arrested 14 people and laid 25 charges. This 2020 year end report outlines the crime trends, issues and challenges faced by CASU during COVID-19.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED:

Appendix A: 2020 Crimes Against Seniors Unit Year End Report

RD/M.Stiller

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